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PAGES ONE TO TWELVE

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KING LOSES HIS LIBEL SUIT AGAINST FORMER ATTORNEY GENERAL WHEN LIGHT'S DEMURRER IS SUSTAINED

Judge Williams of Superior Court Upholds Contention of Norwalk Lawyer That What He Said of King's Offering to Collect Money For Contractor Does Not in Itself Constitute Libel.

KING'S COUNSEL HAS NOT YET DECIDED WHETHER TO APPEAL

Racy Political Disclosures Which Were Confidently Expected Are Forestalled When King's Action Fails—Sue Grew From Sensational Political Speech Delivered in Stratford Last Fall.

Judge William H. Williams, sitting in the superior court, today sustained the demurrer of former Attorney General John H. Light, which creates a probability that the public will not receive the racy information that was expected from the trial of the libel suit brought by John T. King.

King is the leader of the Republican party in Bridgeport. Light, the last state campaign, joined the Progressive party, and conducted a vigorous campaign against the Republican bosses.

During the progress of his anti-boss speeches Light frequently criticized King severely, finally reading in Stratford, last October, an affidavit by B. N. Beard, of Shelton, in which Beard alleged that King had once offered to collect a bill due Beard from the highway department, for a commission. Beard declared that he refused to pay the commission. Beard also said that King asked him to vote against the Public Utilities bill.

Mr. King regarded this affidavit as libelous, and through Judge Elmer F. Banks, sued Light, and Beard for damages. Judge Light thereupon entered demurrer, claiming that nothing libelous per se was contained in the affidavit, and that in his complaint King had not stated that he had suffered because of the affidavit. The court sustained the demurrer upon these claims by Judge Light.

This news was received with a feeling of disappointment in political circles. The case had been confidently looked forward to as likely to furnish, on a smaller scale, information as to the veracity of the charges made in Boss Barnes' suit against Col. Roosevelt.

Judge Banks, counsel for Mr. King, said today he had decided whether to appeal from the decision. Mr. King is out of town. Judge Light was not at home in Norwalk, this afternoon.

Here is the affidavit that caused the lawsuit:

BEARD'S AFFIDAVIT.

I, B. N. Beard, of Shelton, Conn., for the information of the public and to promote honesty and fair play in the transaction of the state's business make the following statement:

I am a contractor by occupation. In 1911 I had completed certain highway work under the direction of Highway Commissioner James H. Macdonald, upon which his department then owed me about \$15,000.

I had constructed a road in Southbury and another in Newtown, and the commissioner had not paid me the money. He had consumed 15 days of my time on various occasions, without either saying he would or would not pay me.

Early in 1912, despairing of justice from the commissioner, and knowing that John T. King of Bridgeport, Conn., was influential with him, I went to King in his office in the Newfield Building, Bridgeport, and asked him to ask the commissioner to treat me fairly.

I handed him my bills. He looked at them and said, "What will you pay me to get you this money?"

"I replied I didn't feel I ought to pay any more, as I had got value received in the work I had done, but I said to keep peace in the family and to save interest I would give him a hundred."

King was sitting on one side of a table and I on the other. He threw the bills across the table toward me and said, "I wouldn't look at it for a hundred. If you want to give me ten per cent, I'll get it for you."

I replied that before I'd give him ten per cent, I would hire a lawyer and pay the money to him.

After this time Commissioner Macdonald made me several small payments at wide intervals, but I did not receive the sum due me until May 2, 1913, when Commissioner Bennett paid me \$3,261.50 to close the Southbury transaction, and \$2,000 to close the Newtown transaction. The work had then been completed for more than three years and had been in daily use.

I had done a good deal of work for the commissioner prior to 1911 and had always been promptly paid. In 1911 I was a member of the General Assembly from Huntington. The bill to create a public utilities commission came before the House and also the Banks amendment to it. John T. King came to the commissioner and asked me to vote for the Banks amendment. I could not do my duty and comply with his request, and I voted for the Judson bill. After this my relations with the commissioner were not the same and I was unable to get what was due me.

Signed October 1, 1914, at Shelton, Conn. B. N. BEARD.

CRIMMINS' WIFE OBTAINS DECREE FOR SEPARATION

Report of Committee, Finding Habitual Intemperance, Is Accepted.

John D. Crimmins, Jr., son of John D. Crimmins, the noted New York philanthropist, was found guilty of habitual intemperance in a divorce decree granted to Louise Holmes Crimmins of Darien by Judge Williams in Part One of the superior court this afternoon. The court accepted the report of Attorney C. S. Canfield, a committee appointed by the court to take evidence. Attorney Canfield found that Crimmins had been intemperate for the past three years and he recommended that Mrs. Crimmins be given a divorce.

It was agreed that Mrs. Crimmins should have the custody of two minor children, John D. 3rd, aged nine, and Holmes, aged six. Crimmins is to pay \$150 a month for the support of each child and also to pay for their schooling. As Crimmins has no real or personal estate in his own name the amount of alimony is fixed at \$1.

According to an ante-nuptial agreement the children were to be brought up in the Catholic religion and this is agreed to by counsel for Mrs. Crimmins. There was a long stipulation as to what requirements should be made for the children's education but Judge Williams said he could not enter it in a decree in just that form as the stipulation would be submitted later to the court.

The Crimmins' wedding, which was a big New York society event, took place November 25, 1903. After their marriage the couple resided in a handsome estate at Darien. Attorney Canfield heard evidence in the divorce suit in Stamford June 7.

SIMPLICITY MARKS COURTLAND SCHOOL PRETTY GRADUATION

Class of 1915 Presented With Diplomas at Hotel Stratfield.

Beautiful simplicity marked the graduation exercises of the Class of 1915 of the Cortland school, in the ballroom of The Stratfield hotel this morning. The exercises were attended by a large gathering of friends, including many alumni of the school.

The ballroom was decorated with greenery and spring blossoms, and over the stage was a floral shield bearing the insignia, "18." The graduates were grouped on the stage, while the sections in front were reserved for undergraduates and alumnae. The faculty of the school also occupied seats on the stage.

Rev. Merle St. Croix Wright, D. D., of New York, delivered the address to the graduates, having for his subject, "The Sources of Power." The graduates were grouped on the stage, while the sections in front were reserved for undergraduates and alumnae. The faculty of the school also occupied seats on the stage.

Following the address, diplomas were presented to these graduates: Misses Henrietta Atwater, Frances Rosalba Hotchkiss, Margaret Lounsbury Griffith and Margaret Katherine Radcliff. A special course certificate was awarded Miss Ruth Bigelow Alling.

Among the spectators at the exercises was former Governor P. C. Lounsbury, a grand uncle of Miss Griffith, one of the graduates.

MARRIAGE LICENSE

A marriage license was issued today to Martin Lanzo, aged 22, a machinist of 660 East Main street and Elizabeth Mueller, aged 21, a milliner daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gustave Mueller.

WEATHER FORECAST

Showers tonight, Saturday partly cloudy; light variable winds, mostly west.

SUBMARINE AND AERIAL CRAFT BUSY

British and Neutral Ships Fall Victims to Undersea Blockaders, While Fishing Smacks Are Sunk By Zeppelins in North Sea.

Crews Escape in All Cases—Seven Vessels Go Down in Day of Activity in War Zone—Severe Fighting Reported Along Borders.

Cardiff, June 11.—The Glasgow steamship Strathcarron was torpedoed yesterday without warning by a German submarine while outward bound from Barry. The crew which put off in boats, was rescued by a steamer.

The Strathcarron was 2807 tons, built in Grampian and owned by the Glasgow Steamship Company of Glasgow. She sailed from Barry May 28 for Barry, where she arrived June 2 and was reported to have entered the government service.

London, June 11.—The Russian bark Thomasina has been torpedoed and sunk by a German submarine off the southwest coast of Ireland. The members of the crew of the sailing ship have reached Queenstown.

The Russian steamer Danica has been torpedoed by a German submarine. The members of her crew were saved.

The Swedish steamer Otago, bound for Hull, was torpedoed and sunk last night.

The list of ships torpedoed by German submarines, which is printed by the morning papers, contains the name of the schooner Express, the crew of which was landed at Liverpool.

Maasius, Holland, June 11.—The British fishing smacks Welfare and Laurestina were attacked and sunk by Zeppelins in the North Sea. The crews, which took to their boats, were picked up by a Dutch smack and brought here.

IMPORTANT BORDER TOWN IS CAPTURED BY ITALY

Switzerland, (By courier to the Swiss frontier and Geneva), June 11.—Italian forces have captured Ploek, in Austria, close to the frontier. The position of this location is important as it endangers Austrian communications. Ploek is a few miles south of the main highway between Leoben and Innsbruck.

Announcement has also been made here by the Austrians that one of their submarines yesterday sunk a British cruiser of the Liverpool type at a point thirty miles off Saint Jean Medua in the Adriatic.

SAY AUSTRO-GERMAN ADVANCE IS CHECKED

London, June 11.—British observers of the war, forming their opinions on the latest despatches from Russia, believe that the Austro-German forces threatening Lemberg from the south have been checked in their advance. Russia, they declare, has delivered a return blow and a hard one. The great masses of German and Austrian troops which have forced a passage of the Danister river near Zurawna have, according to the latest announcement of the Russian war office, been forced back with heavy losses in men and material.

Thus for the moment on Lemberg is thought to be safe, nowhere along the long front has the Teutonic allies been making progress recently.

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Mrs. Cenicola Says Husband Mistreats Her

Wife of Physician Files Suit For Divorce—Husband Now in Europe.

Dr. Henry Cenicola, an East Bridgeport physician widely known among Italian speaking residents, has been sued for divorce by Jennie Elida Cenicola. Mrs. Cenicola alleges intolerable cruelty but does not give details regarding any specific acts.

The couple were married May 14, 1914 in New York city. Mrs. Cenicola's maiden name was Jennie Meneguz. She charges that the cruelty has been continued since June 1, 1914. Mrs. Cenicola, who is attractive brunette, has been prominent in social affairs. Her husband ranks high in the medical world. It has been known among their intimate friends that they have not been on friendly terms recently. The divorce suit, which was filed today in the superior court, is brought through Attorney Charles S. Canfield. It is returnable to the June term of court.

At Dr. Cenicola's East Main street residence this afternoon it was stated that Dr. Cenicola had gone to Europe so it could not be learned whether he intends to contest the suit.

NOTICE

The full text of the American note to Germany, and former Secretary Bryan's statement commenting on same will be found on Page 13 of The Farmer today.

'SOLENN WARNING', BERLIN VIEW OF U. S. NOTE; FORMER SECRETARY BRYAN PLEADED

U. S. NOTE TO BERLIN SILENCE TO "JINGOES," IS MR. BRYAN'S VIEW

Washington, June 11.—Former Secretary Bryan today issued a statement expressing his gratification over what he termed a change in the tone of the press regarding the American note to Germany. The statement follows:

"I am glad to note the change in the tone of the press in regard to the note to Germany. From the time the papers began to publish forecasts down to yesterday, the jingo editors have been predicting that the matter would be dealt with 'with great firmness,' that Germany would be told that there must be no more delay in the acceptance of this country's demands, etc. 'Instead of waiting until the note was issued, they put their own construction upon it in advance and colored it to suit their own purposes. It is a relief to find the papers now emphasizing the friendly tone of the note and pointing out that it does not necessarily mean war.

"Something has been gained if the warrior journalists at last realize that the country does not want war but that on the contrary, it will support the President in his efforts to find a peaceful solution of the difficult problem raised by the use of the submarine against merchantmen."

OFFICER AND SEVERAL OF CREW OF EITEL FRIEDRICH, INTERNED HERE, SAID TO HAVE LEFT U.S.

Washington, June 11.—Lieutenant Brauer and "certain men of the crew" of the German commerce raider Prinz Eitel Friedrich, who left the ship before she was formally interned and have not returned to the Norfolk navy yard, are believed to have left the country. Customs Collector Hammond, at Norfolk, made this report today to the navy department.

Investigation Is Begun

Special agents on the department of justice now are conducting an investigation at the instance of the state department to which Collector Hamilton's report was referred. It appears that Brauer and the men are not on parole because the ship had not been interned, but Collector Hamilton understood he had the word of Captain Thierichens that none of his officers or men would leave the vicinity of Newport News while the status of the cruiser was in question.

"It has come to my attention," Collector Hamilton reported today, "that one Lieutenant Brauer, who was either the first officer or the executive officer of the Prinz Eitel Friedrich when she arrived at Newport News, Va., March 10, 1915, has left the ship and is not now aboard. There is also reason to believe that Lieutenant Brauer may have left the United States and that certain other members of the crew of the Prinz Eitel Friedrich, who were aboard the ship

when she arrived March 10, are not now aboard, and that they may possibly have also left the United States, with Lieutenant Brauer.

"The commander of the Prinz Eitel Friedrich," admits that Lieut. Brauer is not now aboard nor at the present time of the Prinz Eitel Friedrich's crew. He states that Lieut. Brauer left the Prinz Eitel Friedrich which I had with the commander of the Prinz Eitel shortly after the ship arrived at Newport News, which should be here stated.

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BRICKLAYERS' STRIKE, TEN YEARS OLD, FINALLY SETTLED AND NEW AGREEMENT SIGNED

Settlement of a strike that has lasted ten years was effected this week when the Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers' union drew up an agreement with the Contractors' Interstate association, and ended disturbances that have been fomenting for a decade.

Through E. V. O'Brien, business agent of the local union, a set of rules that govern the action of the workmen and the contractors, if disagreements arise in the future, have been placed before the members of the Contractors' association and have been accepted. By the signing of the agreement, a strike that had never been settled and that often led to disorganized conditions, was ended.

It is ten years ago since the members of the Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers' union went on a strike for an increase in wages and shorter hours. The union members remained away from work for three months and then the mason laborers walked out, making demands on the contractors. After committees representing the contractors and the bricklayers met many times in a futile attempt to reach a settlement, the bricklayers' troubles were submitted to an arbitration board and the decision of that body was accepted by the contractors.

However, the union members refused to sign them, unless the demands of the hod carriers and other assistants were met. The contractors couldn't see their way clear to making the later concession and they said they would fight. Their argument was that the union might do the same if plumbers, carpenters and other classes of skilled workmen made demands.

The union and the contractors have been fighting since then. Each side was resolved to hold out and the strike was never settled during the last ten years.

Strike breakers and non-union men were brought to this city and a great many members left the union. Several of the men who came here as workmen during the strike are now successfully carrying on small businesses in the building industry. This has made inroads into the business of the contractors and has also seriously hurt the union, for much of the work that was formerly done by the older contractors and the union men has now been done by some of the men brought here during the strike.

While both the Contractors' Interstate association and the members of the Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers' union could have remained at loggerheads for 10 years more, neither would have gained anything thereby. Both have realized, however, that it will be beneficial to each side to forget the past and work for the mutual interest.

The agreement that has been reached is not considered a victory by either party to it. Neither were any great concessions made by either. The papers that were signed contained an amicable solution of the situation and both feel that it is a pleasant ending to an unpleasant matter.

Hereafter, before any members of the union take action following a disagreement, they will submit their case to the executive board of the international association of the union. By that plan, it is expected, disturbances will be eliminated. Sets of rules governing both men and contractors have been drawn up and agreed to and more harmonious times are expected.

The settlement has taken a long time to conclude, but it was effected after many conferences between Mr. O'Brien, agent of the union, and the contractors. The members of the union look upon the agreement as a satisfactory ending of their troubles and they are duly grateful to their representative.

A change in the policy of the union and a strict adherence to the rules of the organization was a strong factor in the agreement. The local union is the strongest of its kind in the state. It has a 90 per cent organization.

Ambassador Gerard Presents Note to Berlin, While Newspapers Withhold Editorial Comment—Headings Show Gravity of Situation Is Felt By Papers.

New Note to Great Britain Is Being Prepared at State Department and Will Be Forwarded As Soon As Possible—Bryan Says "Jingoes" Are Silenced.

Berlin, June 11.—Ambassador Gerard presented the American note at the German foreign office at 1:10 p. m., today.

The American note, although printed in full and given the greatest prominence in the Berlin newspapers, was not accompanied by editorial comment in the editions appearing up to 3 o'clock. Among the captions were, "America Stands Firm"; "A Very Solemn Warning"; "Grave American Warning to Germany," and "A Grave Appeal."

NOTE TO ENGLAND BEING COMPLETED

Washington, June 11.—It was stated officially today at the state department that while officials had been for more than two months assembling data on which to base a note to Great Britain on interruptions to American commerce by British naval operations, there was as yet no indication of when the new communication would be ready for transmission to London.

There are many cases of ships and cargoes delayed to be studied. The task of reducing them to a comprehensive note of not too great length is one that requires time.

It is intended that the new representations shall be so complete in details as to preclude protracted discussion.

As yet Great Britain has made no reply to the last American note on the orders in council. There is a belief in some quarters here that it is unlikely a reply will be made while the situation between the United States and Germany continues. The situation, however, it is said, would not induce the Washington government in drafting the new communication and it was intimated that the note might go forward as it was completed without regard to the status of the negotiations with Berlin.

"REFERENDUM ON WAR" SUGGESTED BY BRYAN

Washington, June 11.—Former Secretary Bryan giving out his formal statement, supplemented it with the following anecdote:

"A Congressman replying to a jingo speech, recently, said: 'While I am personally against war, I am in favor of the country having a referendum. If the country wants war, let it have war, but let it first find out if the country does want war. If it becomes necessary to ascertain the sentiment of the country, I suggest that a ballot be taken; let those who want war vote for war and those opposed to war vote against it and let the vote, be taken with the understanding that those who vote for war will enlist for war and that those who vote against war will not be called upon until after those who want war have exhausted their efforts.'

"I still believe," added Mr. Bryan, "in the right of the people to rule and think the Congressman's suggestion might ensure deliberate action on the part of the voters.

Mr. Bryan was reminded of the suggestion of some of his friends that in case of war he would be one of the first to enlist. "I do not want to talk about war but on one occasion I enlisted to defend my country on the first day war was declared," he replied.

GRAND JURY TO PROBE AFFIDAVITS ASSERTING LUSITANIA WAS ARMED

New York, June 11.—The Federal Grand Jury now in session here, it was stated, today, will make a thorough investigation to determine whether there was a conspiracy to defraud the United States by persons who obtained the affidavits submitted to the state department in which it was asserted that the steamship Lusitania carried four guns when she left here on her last trip on April 29. The inquiry may last for several weeks.

Robert B. Wood, the assistant United States district attorney who is directing the inquiry, said that the grand jury would follow the evidence as far as it might lead.

The arrest yesterday of Gustave Stahl, a German reservist who made one of the affidavits given to the German government, was mentioned.

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